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Palladium Catalyzed Enantioselective Conjugate Addition of Boronic Acids

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General Experimental.

¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 300 or 400 MHz with CDCl₃ as solvent. ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained at 75.4 or 100.6 MHz in CDCl₃, (Varian VXR300 or AMX400 spectrometers). Chemical shifts were determined relative to the residual solvent peaks (δ = 7.26 ppm for hydrogen, δ = 77.0 for carbon). Data are reported as follows: chemical shifts, integration, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, br = broad, m = multiplet) and coupling constants (Hz). Mass spectra were recorded on a AEI-MS-902 mass spectrometer. Enantioselectivities were determined by capillary GC analysis (Chiraldex G-TA column (30 m x 0.25 mm) or Chiraldex α -TA column (30 m x 0.25 mm)) using a flame ionization detector and compared with the racemic 1,4 addition products. HPLC analysis was carried out on a Shimadzu LC-10ADVP HPLC equipped with a Shimadzu SPD-M10AVP diode array detector. Conversion of the reaction was determined by GC-MS (GC, HP6890; MS HP5973) with an HP1 or HP5 column (Agilent Technologies, Palo Alto, CA). Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel, components were visualized by staining with KMnO₄ reagent. Flash chromatography was performed on silica gel. All reactions were carried out under nitrogen atmosphere using dried glassware. All solvents were dried and distilled before use according to standard procedures.

Ligand **L*₁** was provided by Solvias, **L*₂** was purchased from Fluka and **L*₃**, **L*₄**, **L*₅** were purchased from Strem. All starting materials and products have been described in the literature.

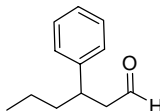
Racemic **3k** was prepared by reaction of **1d** with phenylmagnesium bromide in dry THF at 0 °C in the presence of CuCl (3 mol %) and TMSCl (1.1 eq.).

Both enantiomers of **3l** were synthesized by the asymmetric rhodium/phosphoramidite catalyzed addition of phenylboronic acid to **1e** according to reported procedure.¹

Racemic **3m** was prepared by reaction of *trans*-4-phenyl-3-buten-2-one with *n*-butylmagnesium bromide in dry Et₂O at 0 °C in the presence of stoichiometric CuI.

The Heck coupling product **4** was synthesized by reaction of **1h** with iodobenzene in NMP in the presence of Pd(OAc)₂ (0,05 mol %).²

Synthesis of racemic 3-Phenylhexanal (**3n**).³



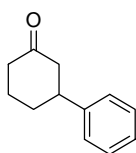
A solution of Et₃N (5 mmol, 0.7 mL) in hexane (2.5 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of cinnamoyl chloride (4.5 mmol, 750 mg) and EtSH (4.5 mmol, 0.34 mL) in hexane (10 mL) at 0°C. The mixture was stirred overnight and allowed to reach room temperature. The precipitate was filtered off and washed with hexane/Et₂O (1:1). Purification of the crude by column chromatography (pentane/ Et₂O = 50:1) afforded the (E)-3-phenyl-thioprop-2-ene-oic acid (S)-ethyl ester as colorless oil (563 mg, 2.9 mmol, 65%). The ethyl ester was dissolved in dry Et₂O (20 mL) in the presence of CuI (100 mol %, 2.9 mmol, 552 mg) and *n*-PrMgBr (3.09 M in Et₂O, 1.2 eq., 3.5 mmol, 1.2 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min at rt, NH₄Cl aq. was added dropwise,

the organic layer concentrated and then the crude was purified by column chromatography (pentane/ Et₂O = 50:1) to isolate the 1,4-addition product 3-phenylthiohexanoic acid (S)-ethyl ester (130 mg, 0.6 mmol, 20%). The product was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL) and 10% Pd-C (5 mol %, 30 mg) was added at rt under nitrogen. After addition of Et₃SiH (3 eq., 1.8 mmol, 0.3 mL) the mixture was stirred at rt overnight and then filtered over Celite and washed with CH₂Cl₂. Purification by column chromatography (pentane/ Et₂O =100:1) afforded the racemic 3-phenylhexanal **3n** as colorless oil (40 mg, 0.23 mmol, 41%).

General procedure for the palladium catalyzed asymmetric conjugate addition of arylboronic acids.

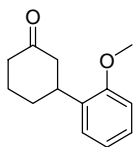
In a flame dried Schlenk tube equipped with septum and stirring bar, Pd(O₂CCF₃)₂ (5 mol %, 5 μmol, 1.66 mg) and ligand **L**₃ (5.5 mol %, 5.5 μmol, 1.68 mg) were dissolved in dry THF (1.0 mL) and stirred under nitrogen at room temperature for 10 min. Arylboronic acid (3 eq., 0.30 mmol) was added, followed by the addition of enone **1** (0.1 mmol). After the addition of H₂O (0.1 mL) the mixture was degassed by alternating vacuum-nitrogen cycles and then heated to 50 °C. When the reaction was complete according to TLC analysis, the mixture was cooled down to room temperature and aqueous NaHCO₃ sat. solution was added. The organic phase was separated and the resulting aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic phases were filtered over a plug of silica, dried on MgSO₄, concentrated and purified by flash chromatography (Et₂O/pentane) to yield the corresponding products **3**. The composition and the conversion in the crude mixture were determined by NMR and GC-MS analysis.

(R)-3-Phenyl-cyclohexanone (**3a**)⁴



Ketone **3a** was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 5:1) in 80% yield, 98% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.69-1.86 (2H, m), 2.02-2.14 (2H, m), 2.29-2.58 (4H, m), 2.93-2.99 (1H, m), 7.17- 7.31 (5H, m); ¹³C-NMR δ 211.5, 144.3, 128.7, 126.7, 126.6, 48.9, 44.7, 41.2, 32.8, 25.5. MS, *m/z* (%): 174 (M⁺, 100), 131 (68.4), 117 (86.8). HRMS for C₁₂H₁₄O calcd 174.104, found 174.105. E.e. was determined by HPLC analysis, Chiralpak AD column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 99:1, detection at 209 nm, retention times: 12.1 (Min) / 13.8 (Maj) min.

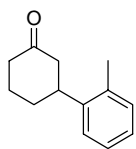
(+)-(R)-3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-cyclohexanone (**3b**)⁵



Ketone **3b** was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 5:1) in 80% yield, 99% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.75-2.14 (4H, m), 2.32-2.60 (4H, m), 3.37-3.48 (1H, m), 3.81 (3H, s), 6.85-6.95 (2H, m), 7.16-7.26 (2H, m). MS, *m/z* (%): 204 (M⁺, 91.9), 147 (100), 91. HRMS for C₁₃H₁₆O₂ calcd 204.115, found 204.116. E.e. was determined by chiral

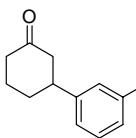
HPLC analysis, Chiralcel OD column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 95:5, detection at 210 nm, retention times: 8.1 (Min) / 9.0 (Maj) min.

(+)-(R)-3-(2-Methylphenyl)-cyclohexanone (3c)⁵



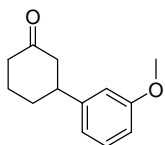
Ketone **3c** was obtained from the reaction of **1a** with **2c** in quantitative yield without further purification in 99% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.75-1.82 (2H, m), 1.94-1.98 (1H, m), 2.11-2.15 (1H, m), 2.28 (3H, s), 2.35-2.48 (4H, m), 3.11-3.22 (1H, m), 7.11-7.21 (4H, m). MS, *m/z* (%): 188 (M⁺, 100), 145 (92.4), 131 (81.3). HRMS for C₁₃H₁₆O calcd 188.120, found 188.121. E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralpak AD column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 99:1, detection at 209 nm, retention times: 9.3 (Min) / 11.63 (Maj) min.

(+)-3-(3-Methylphenyl)-cyclohexanone (3d)⁵



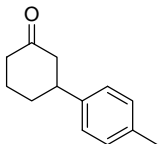
Ketone **3d** was obtained from the reaction of **1a** with **2d** in quantitative yield without further purification in 97% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.68-1.83 (2H, m), 2.01-2.13 (2H, m), 2.30 (3H, s), 2.34-2.53 (4H, m), 2.89-2.92 (1H, m), 6.96-7.02 (3H, m), 7.15-7.21 (1H, m). MS, *m/z* (%): 188 (M⁺, 100), 145 (52.6), 131 (85). HRMS for C₁₃H₁₆O calcd 188.120, found 188.121. E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralpak OD column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 99:1 grad. 90/10, detection at 209 nm, retention times: 11.37 (Min) / 13.61 (Maj) min.

(+)-3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-cyclohexanone (3e)⁵



Ketone **3e** was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 5:1) in 98% yield, 98% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.65-1.82 (2H, m), 2.01-2.13 (2H, m), 2.29-2.58 (4H, m), 2.89-2.97 (1H, m), 3.75 (3H, s), 6.71-6.78 (3H, m), 7.17-7.23 (1H, m). MS, *m/z* (%): 204 (M⁺, 100), 163 (29.3), 134 (51.0). HRMS for C₁₃H₁₆O₂ calcd 204.115, found 204.116. E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralcel OD column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 99:1, detection at 210 nm, retention times: 33.7 (Min) / 38.3 (Maj) min.

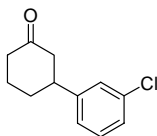
3-*p*-Tolyl-cyclohexanone (3f)⁴



Ketone **3f** was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 5:1) in 90% yield, 97% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.70-1.81 (2H, m), 2.00-2.13 (2H, m), 2.29 (3H, s), 2.30-2.55 (4H, m), 2.89-2.96 (1H, m), 7.06-7.22 (4H, m). ¹³C-NMR δ 211.05, 141.4, 136.2, 129.3, 126.4, 49.1, 44.4, 41.2, 32.9, 25.6, 20.96. MS, *m/z* (%): 188 (M⁺, 51.9), 145 (25.5), 131 (100). HRMS for C₁₃H₁₆O calcd 188.120, found 188.121. E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralpak AD column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 98:2, detection at 209 nm, retention times: 7.3 (Min) / 7.65 (Maj)

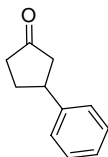
min or by chiral GC, Chiraldex G-TA column (30 m x 0.25 mm) 140 °C, retention times: 52.9 (Maj) / 54.6 (Min) min.

3-(3-Methylphenyl)-cyclohexanone (**3h**)⁶



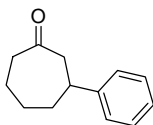
2-Cyclohexenone gave 60% of conversion in **3h** that was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 5:1) in 40% yield, 98% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.66-1.96 (2H, m), 2.02-2.12 (2H, m), 2.27-2.56 (4H, m), 2.88-2.96 (1H, m), 7.01-7.14 (1H, m), 7.15-7.22 (3H, m); ¹³C-NMR δ 210.4, 146.3, 134.5, 129.9, 126.9, 126.8, 124.8, 48.6, 44.4, 41.1, 32.5, 25.4. E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralcel AD column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 98:2, detection at 254 nm, retention times: 8.8 (Min) / 9.9 (Maj) min.

(+)-(R)-3-Phenyl-cyclopentanone (**3i**)⁴



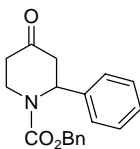
Ketone **3i** was obtained following the general procedure at room temperature after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 5:1) in 75% yield, 82% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.89-1.97 (1H, m), 2.21-2.46 (4H, m), 2.63 (1H, dd, *J* = 6.96 and 17.96 Hz), 3.34-3.41 (1H, m), 7.19-7.32 (5H, m); ¹³C-NMR δ 218.5, 142.9, 128.6, 126.7, 45.7, 42.5, 38.8, 31.1. MS, *m/z* (%): 160 (M⁺, 82.8), 117 (37.6), 104 (100). HRMS for C₁₁H₁₂O calcd 160.0888, found 160.0896. E.e. was determined by chiral GC, Chiraldex α-TA column (30 m x 0.25 mm) 140°C, retention times: 16.8 (Min) / 18.6 (Maj) min.

(+)-(R)-3-Phenyl-cycloheptanone (**3j**)⁴



Ketone **3j** was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 5:1) in 53% yield, 86% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.43-1.47 (1H, m), 1.63-1.72 (2H, m), 1.93-2.06 (3H, m), 2.53-2.62 (3H, m), 2.85-2.92 (2H, m), 7.12-7.27 (5H, m); ¹³C-NMR δ 213.3, 146.9, 128.6, 126.4, 51.2, 43.9, 42.7, 39.2, 29.7, 24.2. MS, *m/z* (%): 188 (M⁺, 100), 130 (57.4), 104 (82.8). HRMS for C₁₃H₁₆O calcd 188.120, found 188.121. E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralcel OD column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 95:5, detection at 210 nm, retention times: 6.7 (Min) / 7.2 (Maj) min.

(+)-(R)-N-Carbobenzyloxy-2-Phenyl-4-piperidone (**3l**)⁷



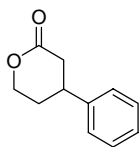
Piperidone **3l** was obtained according to the general procedure performing the reaction at 70 °C after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 1:1) in 60% yield, > 99% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 2.28-2.34 (1H, d, *J* = 16.11 Hz), 2.42-2.79 (1H, m), 2.80-2.84 (1H, dd, *J* = 3.66 and 6.59 Hz), 2.93 (1H, d, *J* = 15.38 Hz), 3.13 (1H, t, *J* = 11.35 Hz), 4.21 (1H, bs), 5.11-5.21 (2H, m), 5.78 (1H, bs), 7.19-7.33 (10H, m); ¹³C-NMR δ 207.2, 155.3, 139.6, 136.2, 128.8, 128.5, 128.2, 127.9, 126.7, 67.8, 54.6, 44.1, 40.5, 38.9.

MS, m/z (%): 309 (M⁺), 218 (43), 132, 91 (100). E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralcel OD-H column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 90:10, detection at 210 nm, retention times: 26.6 (min, not visible) / 31.6 (Maj) min.

General procedure for the asymmetric conjugate addition of phenylboroxine.

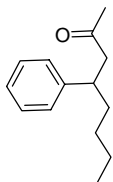
In a flame dried Schlenk tube equipped with septum and stirring bar, Pd(O₂CCF₃)₂ (5 mol %, 5 μmol, 1.66 mg) and ligand **L**₃ (5.5 mol %, 5.5 μmol, 1.68 mg) were dissolved in dry THF (1.0 mL) and stirred under nitrogen at room temperature for 10 min. Phenylboroxine (3 eq., 0.30 mmol, 94 mg) was added, followed by the addition of enone **1** (0.1 mmol). The resulting mixture was heated to 50 °C and 0.4 mL of a 20 vol % solution of water in THF was added slowly by syringe pump (0.1 mL/h). After the addition, stirring was continued overnight and then the reaction was cooled down to room temperature, diluted with Et₂O and filtered over a plug of silica. The crude was dried, concentrated and purified by flash chromatography (Et₂O/pentane) to yield the corresponding products **3**. The composition and the conversion in the crude mixture were determined by NMR and GC-MS analysis.

(+)-(S)-4-Phenyl-tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-one (**3k**)⁸



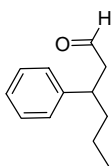
Pyranone **3k** was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 3:2) in 75% yield, 94% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 1.97-2.02 (1H, m), 2.11-2.15 (1H, m), 2.59 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.6 and 17.6 Hz), 2.88 (1H, ddd, *J* = 1.8, 5.9 and 17.6 Hz), 3.18-3.21 (1H, m), 4.32-4.38 (1H, m), 4.43-4.48 (1H, m), 7.16-7.34 (5H, m). MS, m/z (%): 176 (M⁺, 100), 117 (85.8), 104 (82.4). HRMS for C₁₁H₁₂O₂ calcd 176.084, found 176.085. E.e. was determined by chiral GC, Chiraldex G-TA column (30 m x 0.25 mm), 170 °C, retention times: 123.0 (Min) / 124.1 (Maj) min.

4-Phenyl-2-octanone (**3m**)⁹



3-octen-2-one **1f** gave 60% conversion in ketone **3m** that was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/Et₂O 100:1) in 45 % yield and 82% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 0.78 (3H, t, *J* = 7.3), 1.04-1.26 (4H, m), 1.50-1.59 (2H, m), 1.96 (3H, s), 2.62-2.68 (2H, m), 3.03-3.08 (1H, m), 7.07-7.26 (5H, m); ¹³C-NMR δ 207.9, 144.5, 128.4, 127.4, 126.2, 50.9, 41.2, 36.1, 30.6, 29.5, 22.5, 13.9. MS, m/z (%): 204 (M⁺, 17.2), 147 (80.2), 91 (100). HRMS for C₁₄H₂₀O calcd 204.151, found 204.152. E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralcel OB-H column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 99:1, detection at 210 nm, retention times: 13.6 (Maj) / 19.3 (Min) min.

3-Phenyl-hexanal (**3n**)⁶



trans-2-hexenal gave 42% conversion in aldehyde **3n** that was obtained after purification by flash chromatography (eluent pentane/ Et₂O 100 : 1) in 30% yield and 50% ee. ¹H-NMR δ 0.82 (3H, t, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 1.11-1.18 (2H, m), 1.55-1.61 (2H, m), 2.67 (2H, dd, *J* = 1.83 and 6.97 Hz), 3.12-3.16 (1H, m), 7.13-7.28 (5H, m), 9.62 (1H, t, *J* = 2.2 Hz); ¹³C-NMR δ 202.1, 143.9, 128.6, 127.4, 126.5, 50.5, 39.8, 38.8, 20.4, 13.9. MS, *m/z* (%): 176 (M⁺, 8.1), 132 (57.9), 107 (79.9), 91 (100). HRMS for C₁₂H₁₆O calcd 176.120, found 176.123. E.e. was determined by chiral HPLC analysis, Chiralcel OD-H column, Heptane/*i*-PrOH 98:2, detection at 210 nm, retention times: 20.9 (Min) / 31 (Maj) min.

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